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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE  
10, PARK SQUARE,  
CHANCERY

Burgh of Coatbridge



# REPORT

of the

Medical Officer of Health

for the

Year 1947



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INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL  
MEDICINE

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OXFORD

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Year 1947



PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
MAIN STREET,  
COATBRIDGE,  
*August, 1948.*

*The Department of Health for Scotland, and  
The Provost, Magistrates and Councillors of the  
Burgh of Coatbridge.*

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit for your consideration my  
Report on the Health of the Burgh of Coatbridge for the year  
1947.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

ROBERT CORDINER,  
*Medical Officer of Health.*

## INTRODUCTION.

In general the vital statistics for 1947 are the best ever recorded for the Burgh, and mark a continuation of the downward trend which began in the early years of the war. The death rate from tuberculosis which during the war and post war years had shown a rising trend has this year fallen to 0.77 per thousand of the population. As the national figures for tuberculosis show no signs of receding it is unlikely that the relatively low mortality rate for that disease in the Burgh will be maintained. With the exception of deaths from diseases or accidents of pregnancy and childbirth all other mortality rates compare favourably with the rates for the country as a whole, and are considerably lower than the rates for the large burghs.

In my previous reports I have emphasised the important part which nutrition has played in producing this improvement in the health of the community, in fact the evidence of the past seven years would lead one to suggest that other factors such as environment and the preventive services are of less importance than we are accustomed to believe. If we can accept the infant mortality rate as a measure of the health of the community then the fact, that that rate has steadily declined from 1941 without any concurrent expansion in the child welfare services, would indicate that the cause of this improvement in health is not derived from these services. There has been no increase in the nursing staff of the child welfare department of this burgh for over twenty years, and during that time successive extensions of the burgh boundary have steadily made the health visitor's task of domiciliary supervision of mothers and young children more difficult. To-day she spends a considerably greater proportion of her time in travelling than in former years, with a corresponding reduction in the time spent on supervision, and yet there has been this steady improvement in infant health. If our premises are correct then these deductions have important practical implications, more especially in view of the impending expansion of our preventive measures under the National Health Services (Scotland) Act, 1947. Many of our services were originally established as a means to attack and remove particular public health problems, *e.g.* isolation hospitals to control the spread of infectious diseases, medical inspection of school children and child welfare clinics for the detection and if possible the remedying of defects in health. But once a service was established we seldom if ever made any attempt to assess its effectiveness as a preventive measure. We tended to measure its value in terms of work done. The bigger the staff and the larger the number of attendances the better the service. The fact that in this burgh we have witnessed a recent improvement in the people's health for which the services established mainly for that purpose are not responsible indicates the pressing need for the introduction

of a measuring rod, a method whereby the value of a service as a health promoting agency can be assessed. Failure to do so leads to the perpetuation of organizations whose need may no longer be necessary. The present economic state of the country with the shortage of manpower in the primary industries cannot permit the introduction of any scheme which can only operate by the withdrawal of manpower from productive employment unless it has been proved that such a scheme will enhance the health of the community. Take as an illustration the proposed increase in the number of health visitors and the provision of dentists for the dental supervision of pre-school children. Have we any real proof other than the recommendations of several august bodies that by increasing these staffs we can procure an improvement in the health of the pre-school child. In my opinion the only way to obtain proof of the efficiency of these services is by controlled experiment. Two comparable areas of the county should be chosen ; one area to be staffed in accordance with theoretical needs, the other area to be unstaffed. After a specified time a statistical survey of both areas should be undertaken and a comparison made of their respective health records. The results will show whether or not the service has been of any real value and an important point—whether it should be made general or abandoned. Only thus is it possible to build our preventive services on a true and solid foundation.

# VITAL STATISTICS.

## TABLE No. 1.

### SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS, 1947.

Area .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	3081 acres.
Population .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	47,004
Inhabited houses .....	.....	.....	.....	.....	11,206

	No. Regd. in District	Transfers		No. corrected for Transfers			Rate per 1000 of Est. Pop. Both Sexes
		Out	In	Both Sexes	M.	F.	
Live Births (includ. illeg.)	892	16	352	1,228	643	585	26.1
Live Births (illegitimate) ...	41	0	10	51	32	19	24.2
Still-Births ...	15	0	19	34	22	12	27
Marriages ...	373	—	—	—	—	—	7.9
Deaths							
All causes ...	439	19	117	537	306	231	*11.4
Tuberculosis (All forms) ...	—	—	—	36	20	16	0.77
Tuberculosis (Resp. System)	—	—	—	32	19	13	0.68
Principal Epidemic (Dis) <sup>1</sup>	—	—	—	6	5	1	0.13
Children aged under One Year ...	—	—	—	69	40	29	56

(1) Typhoid fever, paratyphoid fevers, cerebro-spinal fever, scarlet fever, whooping cough, diphtheria, influenza and measles.

(2) per 100 live births.

(3) per 1,000 total births (including still-births).

(4) per 1,000 live births.

\*Rate adjusted for age and sex distribution=12.9.

## TABLE No. 2.

### DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

	No.	Rate per 1000 of Population
Measles ...	—	—
Scarlet Fever ...	—	—
Whooping Cough ...	2	0.04
Diphtheria ...	1	0.02
Influenza ...	2	0.04
Cerebro Spinal Fever ...	1	0.02
Tuberculosis (Pulmonary) ...	32	0.68
Tuberculosis (Non-Pulmonary) ...	4	0.09
Pneumonia ...	20	0.43



**TABLE No. 3.**  
**DEATHS FROM NON-INFECTIOUS DISEASES.**

	No.	Rate per 1000 of Population
Heart Disease ... ..	141	3.0
Bronchitis ... ..	29	0.52
Cerebral Haemorrhage ... ..	41	0.87
Old Age ... ..	19	0.40
Cancer ... ..	65	1.38

## MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

### STILL-BIRTHS.

There were 34 still-births registered under the Registration of Still-Births (Scotland) Act, 1938, 15 of these occurred within the Burgh and the probable cause of death is shown in the accompanying Table No. 4.

**TABLE No. 4.**  
**CAUSES OR PROBABLE CAUSES OF**  
**STILL-BIRTH.**

Prematurity ... ..	1
Malformation of Foetus ... ..	4
Strangulation of Cord ... ..	3
Prolonged Labour ... ..	1
Malpresentation ... ..	3
Other Causes ... ..	3

**TABLE No. 6.**  
**DEATHS OF CHILDREN UNDER ONE YEAR.**

Year	Number of Deaths	Rate per 1,000 of live Births.
1938	87	84
1939	96	96
1940	82	80
1941	100	98
1942	75	77
1943	98	72
1944	69	69
1945	60	67
1946	69	62
1947	69	56

## INFANT MORTALITY.

The number of deaths of children under one year was 69 ; 40 males and 29 females, representing an infantile mortality rate of 56 per 1,000 live births. This is the lowest figure ever recorded in the Burgh. The greatest single cause of death was prematurity. Details of certified cause of death with age and sex classification are given in Table No. 5. Table No. 6 shows the rate for the past ten years. Table No. 7 shows causes of deaths of children between one and five years.

### TABLE No. 5.

CAUSE OF DEATH	Under 1 Week		1 Week and under 4 Weeks		1 and under 3 Months		3 and under 6 Months		6 and under 12 Months		Total		GRAND TOTAL
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
Pneumonia ...					1		5	3	2	1	8	4	12
Other Causes ...	2	2		2	2		1	1	2	1	7	6	13
Congenital Debility ...	4	1		1	2						6	2	8
Prematurity ...	7	8	1	1							8	9	17
Congenital Deformities ...	1	3	1	2	1						3	5	8
Convulsions ...					1	1	1				2	1	3
Gastro-Enteritis ...				1	2						2	1	3
Asphyxia from Vomiting ...					1		1			1	2	1	3
Whooping Cough ...							1		1		2	0	2
	14	14	2	7	10	1	9	4	5	3	40	29	69

TABLE No. 7.

## DEATHS OF CHILDREN BETWEEN ONE AND FIVE YEARS.

Causes	NUMBERS.
Diphtheria .....	1
Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis .....	3
Diarrhoea .....	1
Respiratory Diseases .....	2
Cerebrospinal Fever .....	1
Other Causes .....	1
Total .....	9

## MATERNAL MORTALITY.

There were three deaths attributed to puerperal causes. This gives a rate of 2.44 per 1000 live births. The Table No. 8 below gives the figures for the last ten years.

TABLE No. 8.

Year	Number of Deaths.	Rate per 1,000 of live Births.
1938	5	4.84
1939	12	12.06
1940	5	4.9
1941	2	1.86
1942	4	3.94
1943	4	3.57
1944	5	4.81
1945	1	1.07
1946	1	0.90
1947	3	2.37

TABLE No. 9.

## STATISTICS RELATING TO MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE SERVICES.

## 1. BIRTHS.

(a)	Total number of Births occurring in the area during year ...	1228
(b)	Number of Births in (a) classified according to nature of attendance at confinement :—	
(i).	Maternity Service Scheme Cases	
	(a) with Doctor ... ..	263
	(b) without Doctor ... ..	579
(ii).	Other Domiciliary Cases	
	(a) with Doctor ... ..	72
	(b) without Doctor ... ..	38
	(No Doctor booked)	
	(c) conducted by outdoor staff of Institution ...	0
	(d) without Doctor or Midwife ... ..	1
(iii).	Institutional Cases (including those in private Maternity and Nursing Homes ... ..)	275

## 2. HOME VISITATION.

	Number Visited for first time.	Total Visits
Expectant Mothers ... ..	34	156
Infants ... ..	1226	5159
Children (1-5 years) ... ..	1332	3826

3. ANTE-NATAL AND POST-NATAL CLINICS (whether provided at Child Welfare Centres or at other premises, *e.g.* hospitals).

	Ante-Natal	Post-Natal
(i). Number of Clinics at end of year provided by Local Authority ... ..	1	1
(ii). Number of Clinics at end of year provided by Voluntary Bodies ... ..	0	0
(iii). Total number of women who attended at the Clinics during year ... ..	47	16

## 4. CHILD WELFARE CLINICS.

(a) Number of Clinics at end of year provided by Local Authority ... ..	...	1
(b) Number of Clinics at end of year provided by Voluntary Bodies ... ..	...	0
(c) Number of children attending during year :—		
(i). under 1 year of age ... ..	...	636
(ii). 1 year of age and over ... ..	...	734
(d) Total number of attendances during year :—		
(i). Under 1 year of age ... ..	...	2378
(ii). 1 year of age and over ... ..	...	1765

## 5. SPECIAL TREATMENT CENTRES.

NUMBER OF CASES TREATED DURING YEAR	Mothers	Children
(1) Teeth ... ..	—	—
(2) Eyes ... ..	—	—
(3) Ear, Nose and Throat ... ..	—	—
(4) Other Ailments ... ..	13	57
(5) Ultra-Violet Treatment ... ..	17	207
(6) Orthopaedic ... ..	2	15

## 6. MOTHER AND BABY HOMES.—NONE.

## 7. RESIDENTIAL NURSERIES AND CHILDREN'S HOMES.—NONE.

## 8. HOME AND DOMESTIC HELPS.—NONE.

## MATERNITY SERVICES.

The Maternity Services Scheme under the Maternity Services (Scotland) Act, 1937, operated smoothly throughout the year. All the general practitioners in the area have accepted service under the Scheme. No full-time midwives are employed, the midwifery service being supplied by arrangement with 11 private practising midwives. During the year there were 842 births under this Scheme.

# MIDWIVES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1915.

The total number of cases of emergency in which medical practitioners have been called in under section 22 of the Act is 113. Table No. 10 classifies these according to the nature of the emergency.

During the year 14 midwives gave notice under Section 18 of their intention to practice in the area.

**TABLE No. 10.**

## EMERGENCIES UNDER MIDWIVES (SCOTLAND) ACT, 1915.

Ruptured Perineum	...	...	...	...	83
Delayed Labour	...	...	...	...	21
Extended Breech	...	...	...	...	2
Adherent Placenta and Ruptured Perineum	...	...	...	...	1
Asphyxia Pallida of Baby	...	...	...	...	1
Twin Pregnancy	...	...	...	...	1
Delayed Labour and Collapse of Patient	...	...	...	...	2
Delayed Labour and Ruptured Perineum	...	...	...	...	1
Adherent Placenta	...	...	...	...	1
Total Number of Emergencies	...	...	...	...	113

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

Total number of notifications received in 1947	.....	.....	276
Average for the past ten years	.....	.....	386

**TABLE No. 11.**

Notifications at 276 were well below the average for the past ten years (386) and were the lowest during that decade. Acute poliomyelitis was the only notifiable disease with an incidence greater than normal. Among the non-notifiable diseases measles was very prevalent in the autumn. As it is not notifiable in the Burgh the extent of the outbreak cannot be measured in numbers, but the experience of most of the general practitioners indicated that it was one of the largest outbreaks for many years. Fortunately the disease was of a benign type and complications were rare.

**SCARLET FEVER.**—Of the 120 cases notified 110 were removed to hospital. The disease in all cases was of a very mild type and there were no deaths.

**DIPHTHERIA.**—11 cases in which the diagnosis was confirmed were notified. Of these, three had received protective inoculation against diphtheria. There was one death from the disease, a non-immunised child.

**DIPHTHERIA ANTITOXIN.**—During the year 300,000 units of diphtheria antitoxin were issued to medical practitioners.

ERYSIPELAS.—18 cases were notified, six being removed to hospital. There were no deaths from the disease.

PNEUMONIA.—71 cases of acute primary pneumonia, and 6 cases of acute influenzal pneumonia were notified, and 10 cases of pneumonia not otherwise notifiable were brought to the notice of the department. 66 cases were removed to hospital. There were 20 deaths from all forms of the disease, 13 occurring in children under one year.

PUERPERAL INFECTIONS.—There were 9 cases of puerperal fever notified; all were removed to hospital. There were no deaths from puerperal sepsis during the year.

OPHTHALMIC NEONATORUM.—Only one case was notified but removal to hospital was not necessary.

CEREBRO-SPINAL FEVER.—4 cases were notified all being removed to hospital. There was one death from the disease.

INFANTILE PARALYSIS.—There was a relatively high incidence of the disease in the Burgh during the epidemic which affected the whole country in the summer and autumn months. The first case was notified on 26/7/47 and the last on 18/10/47. There were twenty-seven cases, eighteen males and nine females. The cases varied from the mild type with transient illness with no paralysis to the severe form with widespread paralysis of a potentially permanent nature requiring prolonged orthopaedic treatment. The majority of the cases were under ten years of age (see Table No. 12). Three cases required treatment in the mechanical respirator and there were two deaths. Twenty-five cases were admitted to hospital and two were treated at home. There was no evidence of paralysis in three of the cases, in eleven it was slight, in six moderate, and in seven severe. Eight of the cases which had paralysis on admission were discharged from the infectious diseases hospital fully recovered and of the remainder four had slight, four had moderate and four had severe paralysis when discharged. Thirteen cases did not require orthopaedic treatment, two required treatment for several weeks and ten needed prolonged orthopaedic treatment. At 31st December, ten cases remained in hospital.

**TABLE No. 12.**  
**AGE GROUPING OF CASES OF POLIOMYELITIS.**

Age Group	No. of Cases	Age Group	No. of Cases
Under 1 year	5	5-10 years	4
1 to 2 years	7	10-15 years	2
2 to 5 years	8	15-25 years	1

# RETURN OF CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES (EXCLUDING TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1947.

NUMBER OF CASES COMING TO THE KNOWLEDGE OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH AND ACCEPTED BY HIM AS SUFFERING FROM THE STATED DISEASE

## DISEASE

DISEASE											
	At all ages.	At age—Year							Cases removed to hospital	Cases not removed to hospital	
		Under 1	1 and under 5	5 and under 15	15 and under 25	25 and under 35	35 and under 45	45 and under 65			65 and upwards
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
Cerebro-Spinal Fever	M	1	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	3	—
	F	—	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
Diphtheria	M	3	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—
	F	7	5	2	—	—	—	—	—	7	—
Dysentery	M	1	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Encephalitis Lethargica	M	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1	—
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Erysipelas	M	8	—	—	—	—	—	5	3	2	6
	F	10	—	—	1	2	2	5	—	4	6
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	M	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1
	F	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pneumonia, Acute Influenzal	M	4	1	—	—	2	1	—	—	3	1
	F	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	1	1
Pneumonia, Acute Primary	M	42	6	2	4	3	8	7	8	28	14
	F	29	2	4	2	5	5	7	1	25	4
Pneumonia (not otherwise notifiable)	M	5	1	—	—	—	—	1	1	4	1
	F	5	3	—	—	1	—	—	—	5	—
Poliomyelitis, Acute	M	17	3	8	5	—	—	—	—	17	2
	F	7	2	4	1	—	—	—	—	5	—
Puerperal Fever	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	9	—	—	3	6	—	—	—	9	—
Scarlet Fever	M	53	12	36	2	2	—	—	—	49	4
	F	67	14	46	5	1	1	1	—	61	6
Para-Typhoid B	M	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
	F	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	—
TOTAL	M	138	13	28	46	10	7	14	12	110	28
	F	138	8	26	52	12	16	8	2	119	19



## IMMUNISATION AND VACCINATION.

During the year 604 children received preventive inoculation against diphtheria and 52 children received maintenance inoculations.

297 statutory declarations of conscientious objection to vaccination were received. This represents an increase in the percentage of objectors from 21% in 1946 to 24% for 1947.

## BACTERIOLOGICAL SERVICE.

This service is rendered by the County of Lanark Bacteriological Laboratory at Hamilton. Table No. 13 gives details of the work done during the year. Since 1st July the cost of this service has been assumed by the Secretary of State for Scotland. The total cost for the half-year ended 30th June was £86 14s. 6d.

## MOSQUITOES.

The hot summer had an aggravating influence on this nuisance, and many reports were received of persons suffering from severe effects of mosquito bites. Samples of water taken from the Monkland Canal showed an increase in the number of mosquito larvae compared with the previous year. In Drumpellier Park many of the ditches dried up and considerably reduced the breeding ground in that area. Notwithstanding this there is a large area of marsh land at the south west end of the park which is unaffected even by a prolonged drought and which owing to its inaccessibility is difficult to treat by spraying. I suggest that this part should be filled in. In addition to spraying breeding grounds with D.D.T., 'Gammexane' is also being used and next year an attempt will be made to determine their relative values as insecticides under local conditions. Up to the present all the mosquitoes and mosquito larvae examined have been culicines.

## WATER SUPPLIES.

In my Report for 1946 I drew attention to the inadequacy of the slow sand filters at Roughrigg Reservoir to treat the volume of water passing through them. Since then the Airdrie, Coatbridge and District Water Board have had under consideration a scheme for increasing the area of the filter beds, which if carried out will overcome the objection to the present arrangements.

During the year 54 samples of water taken from various points in the distribution system were bacteriologically examined and with the exception of one sample were found to comply with the required standards. The exception was a sample taken at 6 Swinton Road, Baillieston, on 25th August, the bacteriologist report stating that the probable number of faecal B. Coli present in 100 c.c. of the original water was 2. Investigation did not reveal any source of contamination and further samples taken at the same point were satisfactory.



TABLE No. 13.  
BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATIONS, 1947.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Total
<b>TUBERCULOSIS</b>													
Sputa ...	42	43	40	45	30	36	35	34	14	22	38	29	408
Pleuritic Fluid ...	4	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	6
Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	—	2	—	1	1	1	1	1	4	—	—	2	13
Urine ...	—	2	—	2	3	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	13
Inoculation Tests ...	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	4
<b>OTHER SPECIMENS.</b>													
Swabs for Diphtheria	10	10	12	10	10	8	7	5	21	18	19	37	167
Cerebro-Spinal Fluid	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blood, Faeces, Urine													
for Enteric ...	34	20	14	18	29	25	25	14	7	5	12	2	205
Water ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	4	—	—	4
Milk ...	10	14	12	—	13	8	8	12	4	12	20	4	117
Swabs for Organisms	5	3	3	4	3	3	2	2	4	2	3	1	35
Swabs													
(Vincent's Angina)	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Blood Films	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	2	—	1	2	—	9
Others ...	2	4	1	3	2	3	—	2	—	3	1	2	23

## VENEREAL DISEASES.

No change has been made in the arrangements for the diagnosis and treatment of cases of venereal disease. The local clinic under the auspices of the Lanarkshire Joint Committee on Venereal Diseases is held at Coathill Hospital two sessions weekly being held. Table No. 14 shows new cases classified according to place of residence and total attendances at the centre during the year. Last year new cases numbered 88 and the total attendances 1508.

No notices under Defence Regulation 33B were received. This regulation ceased to have effect on 31st December, 1947.

### TABLE No. 14.

#### NEW CASES AND TOTAL ATTENDANCES AT V.D. CLINIC, COATHILL, DURING THE YEAR 1947.

	Syphilis	Gonorrhoea	N.S.	S.S.	C.O.V.	Attendances
Airdrie ... ..	6	8	5	—	2	625
Coatbridge ... ..	10	10	4	—	6	889
Hamilton ... ..	2	—	1	—	—	80
Motherwell and Wishaw ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	36
County of Lanark ... ..	8	25	3	—	—	702
Rutherglen ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other Areas ... ..	1	—	—	—	—	16
<b>TOTALS</b> ... ..	<b>27</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2348</b>

## DIABETES.

The arrangements under which cases of diabetes are seen by specialists at the Diabetic Clinic, County Hospital, Motherwell, continued during the year. Table No. 15 gives details of the work done.

### TABLE No. 15.

Number of Diabetics attending ... ..	4
„ First Visits ... ..	2
„ Revisits ... ..	20
Quantity of Ordinary Insulin issued ... ..	35,000 units.
„ Protamine Zinc Insulin issued ... ..	25,400 units.
„ Globin Insulin ... ..	11,000 units.
Number who received Insulin free of cost ... ..	3
„ „ at reduced cost ... ..	0
„ „ at cost ... ..	10

## CANCER.

No provision has been made under the Cancer Act, 1939. The period for the submission of arrangements for approval of the Department of Health for Scotland was extended to 31st March, 1948.

## MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES.

There has been no change in the arrangements for the provision of services for mental health. The great difficulty which has been experienced in the past eleven years to find institutional accommodation for mental defectives will be largely solved with opening of new wards at Birkwood. The buildings are nearing completion and it is expected that they will be in use at an early date.

## HEALTH EDUCATION.

A large number of leaflets and posters dealing with health education were obtained from the Scottish Council for Health Education. The posters were displayed throughout the town and in local authority premises. Leaflets were distributed from the welfare clinics and by the health visitors. Under the joint auspices of the Scottish Council and the Town Council a film show and a talk on general health by Dr. Neil Reid, Medical Officer of Health for the County of Stirling, was held in the Cinema on 30th November. The hall was packed to capacity and the meeting was most successful.

## REGISTRATION OF NURSING HOMES.

There are no Nursing Homes within the Burgh.

## AMBULANCE FACILITIES.

There has been no change in the arrangements under this heading.

## ORTHOPAEDIC FACILITIES.

The two clinics, the district clinic under the County of Lanark Orthopaedic Scheme, and the Glasgow Royal Infirmary Regional Rehabilitation Clinic continued to hold their weekly sessions on the Public Health Department premises.

## THE SICK POOR.

Total Number on Roll at 1st January, 1947 :—

					Adults	Dependants
Ordinary Roll	...	...	...	...	815	985
Able-Bodied Roll	...	...	...	...	5	15
					<hr/> 820	<hr/> 1,000
Number of Applications during year	...			1885		
Number of Admissions to Old Monkland						
Home during year	...	...	...	618		
Number of Admissions to Hartwood						
Asylum during year	...	...	...	26		

## TUBERCULOSIS.

The death rate from Tuberculosis at 0·77 per thousand of the population shows a marked fall from the very high figure of 1·28 per thousand for last year. I can offer no explanation for this improvement other than a normal fluctuation that occurs in the statistical treatment of small groups.

There was no improvement on the acute shortage of beds for pulmonary cases, and at 31st December, there were twenty persons awaiting admission to hospital. The selection of cases for admission to hospital presents a very difficult administrative problem. The most logical course to follow is to select the early cases which hold out the best prospect of cure. From time to time, however, there is notified an advanced case living in overcrowded conditions and invariably with children in the same house, which one is forced to take into hospital. This type of case fills a bed to the exclusion of a case in which there is a reasonable chance of cure.

Fifty-four cases of pulmonary and fourteen cases of non-pulmonary tuberculosis were notified during the year. The corresponding figures for 1946 were seventy-four and thirteen respectively. The relatively large number of children (15) notified reflects the more frequent diagnosis of primary infection. As was pointed out in a previous report most of these cases show no clinical signs of disease other than a positive tuberculin test and radiological evidence of enlarged glands. In my opinion those cases should not be notified as pulmonary tuberculosis but should be referred to the tuberculosis officer for dispensary supervision. At 31st December, 47 patients suffering from tuberculosis were being treated in hospital.

Forty-seven families in which one or more persons were suffering from the disease were rehoused during the year.

TABLE No. 16.

## RETURN OF CASES OF TUBERCULOSIS NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR.

NUMBER OF CASES NOTIFIED AS SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.											
AGE GROUPS											
	Under 1	1- 5	5- 10	10- 15	15- 25	25- 35	35- 45	45- 65	65 Up'd	Total	
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
PULMONARY											
Males	0	2	3	0	4	4	9	2	2	26	
Females	0	2	7	0	12	5	2	0	0	28	
Total	0	4	10	0	16	9	11	2	2	54	
Non-PULMONARY											
Males	1	0	1	2	2	0	0	0	0	6	
Females	0	1	3	2	0	2	0	0	0	8	
Total	1	1	4	4	2	2	0	0	0	14	
PULMONARY AND											
Non-PULMONARY											
Males	1	2	4	2	6	4	9	2	2	32	
Females	0	3	10	2	12	7	2	0	0	36	
Grand Total	1	5	14	4	18	11	11	2	2	68	
											Cases notified in a year and removed to hospital for the first time during 1947
										Number of Cases notified during year in which diagnosis of tuberculosis has been confirmed.	Cases removed to Hospital
										Cases removed to Hospital	Cases not removed to Hospital
										11	12
										13	14
										15	16
										17	18
										19	20
										21	22
										23	24
										25	26
										27	28
										29	30
										31	32
										33	34
										35	36
										37	38
										39	40
										41	42
										43	44
										45	46
										47	48
										49	50
										51	52
										53	54
										55	56
										57	58
										59	60
										61	62
										63	64
										65	66
										67	68
										69	70
										71	72
										73	74
										75	76
										77	78
										79	80
										81	82
										83	84
										85	86
										87	88
										89	90
										91	92
										93	94
										95	96
										97	98
										99	100

TABLE No. 17.

NUMBER OF CASES WHICH RECEIVED TREATMENT UNDER THE TUBERCULOSIS  
SCHEME IN SANATORIA OR OTHER INSTITUTIONS DURING THE YEAR.

				In Instit. on Jany. 1st	Number of Patients		Died in the Instit.	In Instit. on December 31
					Admitted during Year	Discharged during Year		
				1	2	3	4	5
PULMONARY.	Adults	...	...	14	23	15	1	3
	Females	...	...	21	18	14	0	4
	Children	...	...	0	0	0	0	0
	Females	...	...	1	0	1	0	0
Non-PULMONARY.	Adults	...	...	3	1	2	0	1
	Females	...	...	6	4	6	0	4
	Children	...	...	6	1	5	0	2
	Females	...	...	3	0	2	0	1
Total	...	...	...	54	47	45	1	8
								47

In Final Residence under 28 days. (Column 4).  
In Final Residence 28 days or over. (Column 5).

TABLE No. 18.

NUMBER OF PERSONS RESIDENT IN THE AREA AT 31st DECEMBER, 1947,  
WHO ARE KNOWN TO BE SUFFERING FROM TUBERCULOSIS.

		Number of Cases. Age-Groups.										65 & Up	Total
		Under 1	1-5	5-10	10-15	15-25	25-35	35-45	45-65				
PULMONARY.													
1.	Sputum not present.	0	7	18	9	17	23	14	18	2	108		
	Females	0	3	19	14	35	32	13	8	0	124		
2.	Sputum present but not examined.	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	6	2	13		
	Females	0	0	0	1	2	4	2	3	1	13		
3.	Sputum examined and tubercle bacilli found	0	0	0	0	5	10	10	4	1	30		
	Females	0	0	0	0	10	12	3	1	0	26		
4.	Sputum examined and tubercle bacilli never found	0	0	0	0	7	8	7	7	0	29		
	Females	0	0	0	0	13	14	1	1	0	29		
Total		0	10	37	24	90	105	52	48	6	372		
Non-PULMONARY.													
1.	Abdominal	0	0	0	2	5	0	0	0	0	7		
	Females	0	0	0	4	5	2	1	0	0	12		
2.	Spine	0	0	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	7		
	Females	0	0	0	0	4	5	1	0	0	10		
3.	Bones and Joints (exclusive of Spine)	0	1	8	7	12	3	0	1	0	32		
	Females	0	0	5	3	6	4	1	4	0	23		
4.	Superficial Glands	0	1	5	8	11	5	2	0	0	32		
	Females	0	3	7	7	8	8	6	5	0	44		
5.	Lupus	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1		
	Females	0	0	0	0	0	2	1	1	0	4		
6.	Other parts or organs	1	3	2	0	2	3	2	1	0	14		
	Females	0	0	4	6	2	3	1	0	0	16		
Total		1	8	32	40	56	36	16	13	0	202		
PULMONARY AND Non-PULMONARY TOTAL		1	18	69	64	146	141	68	61	6	574		



**TABLE No. 19.**  
**NUMBER OF PERSONS WHO DIED FROM**  
**TUBERCULOSIS IN THE AREA DURING**  
**THE YEAR.**

	PULMONARY		NON-PULMONARY	
	Males	Females	Males	Females
Number of persons who died from Tuberculosis of whom :—	19	13	1	3
Not notified or notified only at death or after death ... ..	0	1	0	3
Notified less than one month before death ... ..	0	0	0	0
Notified from 1 to 3 months ...	1	0	0	0
"      3 to 6 months ...	3	3	0	0
"      6 to 12 months ...	2	1	0	0
"      1 to 2 years ...	2	2	0	0
"      over 2 years ...	11	6	1	0
TOTALS ...	19	13	1	3
Number who died within 28 days after discharge from an Institution	0	0	0	0
Number who died more than 28 days after discharge from an Institution	7	4	0	0

## NUTRITION.

In my report for 1946 reference was made to the scheme for providing one main meal daily to expectant mothers. The scheme was abandoned on 15th May, 1947, owing to the closure of the British Restaurant. Table No. 20 shows details of the service up to the date of its withdrawal.

**TABLE No. 20.**

Number of Expectant Mothers .....	73
Number of Vouchers Issued .....	293
Number of Dinners Supplied .....	3172
Average Number of Meals per Mother .....	43
Total Cost .....	£210 19s. 4d.

Plans are well developed for the establishment of a civic restaurant in which special accommodation has been provided for serving meals to expectant mothers and young children.

**TABLE No. 21.**  
**FOODS AND VITAMIN PREPARATIONS ISSUED**  
**FROM CHILD WELFARE CLINIC.**

Dried Milk .....	14,350 lbs.
Malt and Oil Products .....	4,210 lbs.
Vitaminised Glucose .....	1,220 lbs.
Vitamin A and D Oil .....	460 ozs.
Cereals .....	140 lbs.



TABLE No. 22.

# ISSUES OF MINISTRY OF FOOD VITAMIN PRODUCTS. 1947.

			ORANGE JUICE		COD LIVER OIL		A and D TABLETS	
			Actual Weekly	% Pot. ential	Actual Weekly	% Pot. ential	Actual Weekly	% Pot. ential
Jan.	Coatbridge ... West of Scotland United Kingdom		835	30·4 25·6 33·0	310	39·1 28·8 31·2	43	39·8 33·1 41·4
Feb.	A. B. C.		827	30·2 23·8 34·9	323	40·9 28·5 37·1	45	41·7 33·4 49·3
Mar.	A. B. C.		939	34·7 23·2 30·3	323	41·2 31·0 33·3	43	41·4 34·8 44·5
Apr.	A. B. C.		943	35·0 27·3 37·1	285	36·4 29·6 36·2	38	36·5 39·0 50·8
May	A. B. C.		942	35·5 26·6 36·0	243	31·3 26·7 29·8	42	42·4 36·1 45·6
June	A. B. C.		1023	38·7 28·7 38·7	196	25·3 24·5 27·2	37	37·4 36·5 47·0
July	A. B. C.		820	31·0 30·6 49·0	153	19·8 24·2 29·4	26	26·3 35·0 48·7
Aug.	A. B. C.		956	35·4 27·3 45·2	343	43·1 21·8 29·8	52	26·1 30·1 48·8
Sept.	A. B. C.		929	34·1 30·3 42·6	343	42·7 29·0 33·0	60	30·2 25·1 34·0
13 week period to 31/12/47			897	31·2	343	42·2	57	25·9

A—Coatbridge. B—West of Scotland. C—United Kingdom.

## PART 1 OF THE ACT

## 1. INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH (INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY SANITARY INSPECTORS).

PREMISES.	M/c line No. 2	Number on Register 3	Inspections 4	Written Notices 5	Occupiers Prosecuted 6	M/c line No. 7
1						
(i). Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities ...	1	34	30	0	0	1
(ii). Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by Local Authority ...	2	149	157	3	0	2
(iii). Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority ...	3	10	11	1	0	3
TOTAL ...	—	193	198	4	0	—

## 2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND.

PARTICULARS.	M/c line No.	Found	Remedied	Referred		Number of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted	M/c line No.
1	2	3	4	to H.M. Inspector 5	By H.M. Inspector 6	7	8
Want of Cleanliness (S.1)	4	9	—	—	—	—	4
Overcrowding (S.2)	5	—	—	—	—	—	5
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3)	6	1	1	—	—	—	6
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4)	7	—	—	—	—	—	7
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	8	—	—	—	—	—	8
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)	9	—	—	—	—	—	9
(a) insufficient ...	10	6	5	—	1	—	10
(b). unsuitable or defective ...	11	—	—	—	—	—	11
(c). not separate for sexes ...	12	—	—	—	—	—	12
(d) other offences against the Act ...							
TOTAL ...	60	16	15	—	1	—	60

PART 7 OF THE ACT. No return was made on this part of the Act as there is no outwork undertaken in the Burgh.

## HOSPITALS.

The three hospitals administered by the Town Council are Coathill Infectious Diseases and Tuberculosis Hospital, the hospital wards at Old Monkland Home and the Coatbridge and Airdrie Maternity Hospital.

### COATHILL I.D. AND TUBERCULOSIS HOSPITAL. STATEMENT FOR YEAR 1947.

DISEASE:	In Hospital last day Dec., 1946	Adm'td during Year	Disch'd during Year	Died during Year	Treated during Year	Rem'ing on last day Decem., 1947
Diphtheria ... ..	2	27	27	1	29	1
Erysipelas ... ..	—	7	7	—	7	—
Pneumonia ... ..	5	88	73	9	93	11
Scarlet Fever ... ..	22	115	123	—	137	14
Tuberculosis (Pulm.)	21	25	16	4	46	26
Tuberculosis (Non-Pul.)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Paratyphoid B. ... ..	1	1	2	0	2	0
Poliomyelitis ... ..	—	26	24	2	26	0
Meningitis (all forms)	—	7	4	3	7	0
Other Diseases ... ..	—	39	34	4	39	1
<b>TOTAL ... ..</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>335</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>386</b>	<b>53</b>

### COATBRIDGE AND AIRDRIE MATERNITY HOSPITAL. STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR 1947.

	Total Admiss'ns	Ante- natal Cases	No. of Infants born	Maternal Deaths	Deaths of Infants under 8 days
Coatbridge Cases ... ..	268	12	256	0	5
Airdrie Cases ... ..	179	8	171	0	4
<b>TOTALS ... ..</b>	<b>447</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>427</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>9</b>

## APPENDIX.

### OLD MONKLAND HOME. ANNUAL REPORT FOR YEAR 1947.

In accordance with the circular issued by the Department of Health, I beg to submit my report for the year 1947.

**SICK WARDS. (Male)**—There are 34 beds for acute and chronic cases including 2 beds in a small side room for malignant and septic cases.

**(Female)**—There are 33 beds disposed as follows :—

One Ward	...	7 beds.
One Ward	...	7 Beds.
One Ward	...	8 Beds.
One Ward for		.
Mental Defectives	...	6 Beds.
Maternity	...	1 Bed and 1 Cot.
Nursery (Disused)	...	1 Bed and 8 Cots.
Mother's Room	...	3 Beds and 2 Cots.

Lighting and Heating are satisfactory in all Wards.

Infectious and Contagious Cases are isolated in Probationary and treated prior to admission.

**STAFF.** Miss REYNOLDS, Matron.

Nurses BREMNER and CAIRNS (Assistant Nurses).

Nurses HAILSTONES and SHERRY (Unregistered).

Major, Surgical and Medical Cases are treated in Alexander Hospital and Royal Infirmary.

The diet is adequate and on the whole more varied than stated in my last report.

### STATEMENT FOR YEAR.

Number of Admissions—Males, 81 ; Females, 46.

Average Number for Year—44.

Minimum during year—38 on 18th September.

Maximum during year—52 on 22nd January, 1947.

Number of Confinements—5.

A. M. GOLDIE, M.B., Ch.B.







